

OPINION 855

ASTACUS OREGANUS RANDALL, 1840 (CRUSTACEA, DECAPODA):
SUPPRESSED UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS

RULING.—(1) Under the plenary powers the specific name *oreganus* Randall, 1840, as published in the binomen *Astacus oregonus*, is hereby suppressed for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy.

(2) The specific name *leniusculus* Dana, 1852, as published in the binomen *Astacus leniusculus*, is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology with the Name Number 2244.

(3) The specific name *oreganus* Randall, 1840, as published in the binomen *Astacus oregonus* (as suppressed under the plenary powers in (1) above) is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology with the Name Number 896.

HISTORY OF THE CASE (Z.N.(S.) 1727)

The present case was submitted to the office of the Commission by Dr. Horton H. Hobbs, Jr., in October 1965. Dr. Hobbs' application was sent to the printer on 15 October 1965 and was published on 31 January 1966 in *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 22 : 351–354. Public Notice of the possible use of the plenary powers in the present case was given in the same part of the *Bulletin* as well as to the other prescribed serial publications (Constitution Art. 12b; *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 21 : 184) and to one specialist serial. No comment was received.

DECISION OF THE COMMISSION

On 2 January 1968 the Members of the Commission were invited to vote under the Three-Month Rule on Voting Paper (67)56 either for or against the proposals set out in *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 22 : 354. At the close of the prescribed voting period on 2 April 1968 the state of the voting was as follows:

Affirmative votes—twenty (20), received in the following order: Mayr, China, Holthuis, Boschma, Vokes, do Amaral, Binder, Jaczewski, Bonnet, Obruchev, Lemche, Munroe, Simpson, Uchida, Tortonese, Brinck, Mertens, Alvarado, Kraus, Forest.

Negative votes—two (2): Sabrosky, Ride.

Voting Paper not returned—one (1): Evans.

The following comments were made by Commissioners in returning their votes:

Prof. E. Mayr (8.i.68): "The name *leniusculus* is also protected under Art. 23b."

Dr. C. W. Sabrosky (19.ii.68): "Although the expression is not used in the application, this is a clear case of a *nomen dubium*. I believe these should be ignored and not brought to the Commission. It is always possible that a very rare species may turn up again and prove to represent the presently unrecognizable species."

Prof. P. Brinck (27.iii.68): "This is well justified, particularly so as "*Astacus*" (*Pacifastacus*) *leniusculus* is now being introduced to northern Europe and there are already articles dealing with this introduction."

Dr. W. D. L. Ride (28.iii.68): "Synonymy between *oreganus* and *leniusculus* has not been demonstrated. The presence of *oreganus* in the literature as an indeterminable species does not result, through the normal application of the Code, in a situation which would cause confusion or disturb stability or universality. Accordingly the use of the plenary powers is not justified."

ORIGINAL REFERENCES

The following are the original references for names placed on the Official List and Index by the Ruling given in the present Opinion:

leniusculus, *Astacus*, Dana, 1852, *U.S. Explor. Exped.*, Crustacea (1) : 524
oreganus, *Astacus*, Randall, 1840, *J. Acad. nat. Sci. Philad.* 3 (1) : 138.

CERTIFICATE

We certify that the votes cast on Voting Paper (68)56 were cast as set out above, that the proposal contained in that Voting Paper has been duly adopted under the plenary powers, and that the decision so taken, being the decision of the International Commission, is truly recorded in the present Opinion No. 855.

R. V. MELVILLE
Secretary

International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature

W. E. CHINA
Assistant Secretary
London
29 April 1968